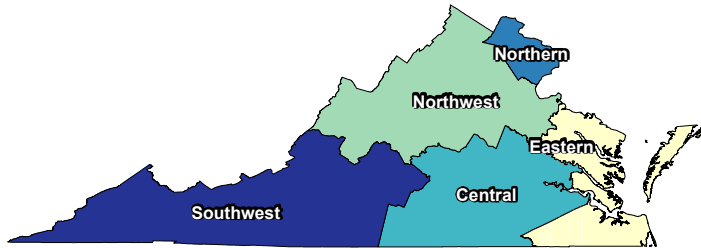




# Virginia Socio-Demographic Characteristics

**Virginia** is a medium size southeastern state, consisting of 95 counties and 38 independent cities. The Commonwealth is divided into five health regions: Central, Eastern, Northern, Northwest, and Southwest, and 35 health districts (Figure 1).

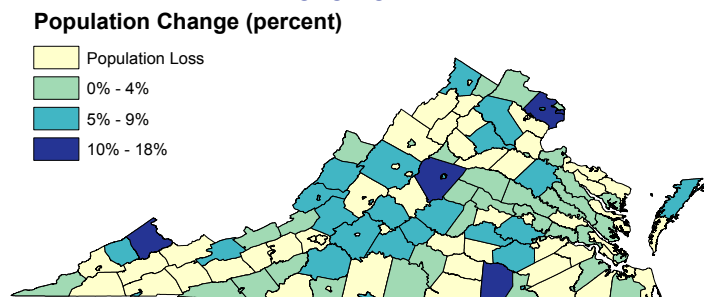
**Figure 1: Virginia Health Regions**



## POPULATION GROWTH TRENDS

All population estimates in this report are as of 2014, the most recent and complete year of United States (US) Census Bureau population estimates. According to the US Census Bureau, Virginia's population in 2014 was 8,185,131, accounting for 2.6% of the national total of 314,107,084.<sup>1</sup> Virginia's population increased by over 325,000 from 2010 to 2014, for a growth rate of 4%, higher than the national growth rate of 3%. Virginia's growth rate was also higher than neighboring jurisdictions of West Virginia, and Maryland, but was less than the District of Columbia (10%).<sup>1</sup> More than 80% of the population growth in

**Figure 2: Virginia Population Changes by County, 2010-2014<sup>1</sup>**

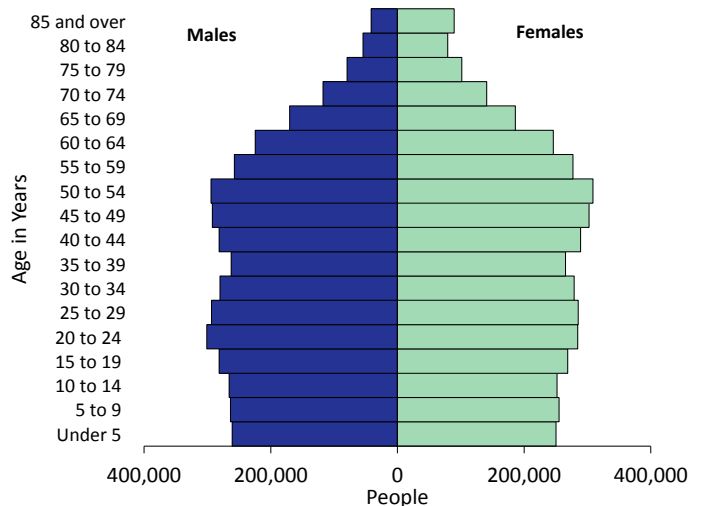


Virginia occurred in Northern Virginia, the Richmond area, and Hampton Roads (Figure 2). Northern Virginia's population alone grew by nearly 190,000, which represents more than half of Virginia's total increase. Virginia's population increase was due to both natural population growth and net migration.<sup>1</sup>

## AGE

Virginia's population is similar to the national picture for age distribution.<sup>1</sup> According to the US Census Bureau, the median age in 2014 (the age at which half the population is older than and half is younger) was 37.6 years. This represents a nearly half-year increase from the estimated median age of 37.2 years in 2010, which indicates that Virginia's population is aging overall. During the same year, 23% of the population was under the age of 18, and 13% was 65 years and older. The age distribution varies regionally; the Southwest region has the highest percent (18%) of the population over the age of 65. In contrast, 27% of the population residing in the Northern region is under 20 years old, followed by the Northwest region at 26%, and the Eastern and Central regions at 25%, respectively.<sup>1</sup>

**Figure 3: Virginia Population by Age and Gender, 2014<sup>1</sup>**



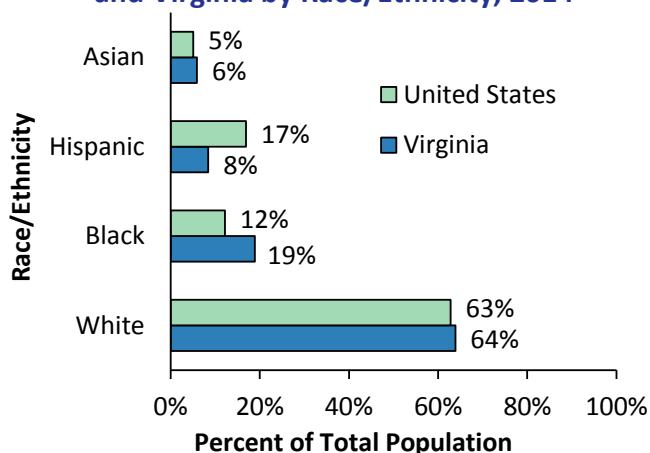
## GENDER

Fifty-one percent of Virginians are female and 49% are male.<sup>1</sup> The younger age groups have relatively similar male to female ratios, however the proportion of males decrease with increasing age, as shown in Figure 3. In 2014, males represented 51% of all Virginians under 19 years old, while in the oldest age group (85 and over) they only made up 32% of the population. A majority of Virginia's seniors are women.<sup>1</sup>

## RACE AND ETHNICITY

Compared to the overall US population in 2014, Virginia had similar proportions of persons who identified as White, non-Hispanic (NH) and Asian.<sup>1</sup> Further, Virginia had a higher percentage of Black, non-Hispanics and a lower percentage of Hispanics than the overall US population in 2014 (Figure 4). In 2014, a majority of Virginians (64%) were White, NH and approximately 19% were Black, NH. Nearly 6% of Virginia's population was Asian, up from an estimated 4% in 2006. Most notably, the Hispanic population in Virginia nearly doubled during the past decade. Over 8% of the population in Virginia identified as Hispanic/Latino in 2014.<sup>1</sup>

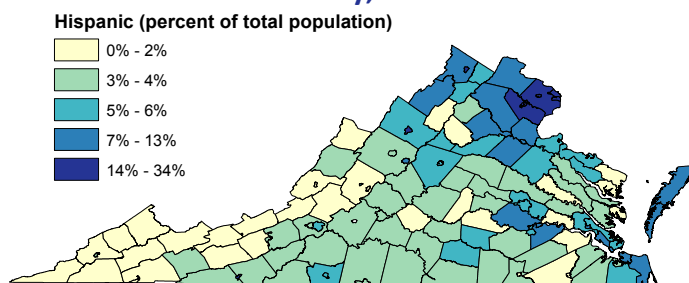
**Figure 4: Total Population of the United States and Virginia by Race/Ethnicity, 2014<sup>1</sup>**



Most of Virginia's Black, NH population is concentrated in the Eastern part of the state, while the Northwest and Southwest regions have a much lower proportion of Black, NH residents. Hispanics/Latinos were the second largest minority group in Virginia, with a population of over 687,000 in 2014.

The percentage of the Hispanic/Latino population varies widely by county, from a low of 0.1% in Cumberland County to a high of 34% in Manassas Park City (Figure 5). While Virginia's proportion of Hispanics/Latinos is well under the national average of 17%, it represents a sizeable population which is increasing and whose needs should be taken into account in the resource planning process.<sup>1</sup>

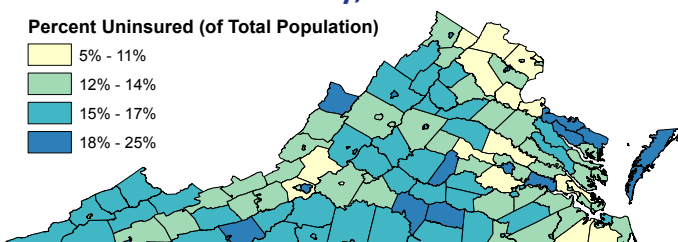
**Figure 5: Hispanic Population in Virginia by Locality, 2014<sup>1</sup>**



## INSURANCE

Based on US Census Bureau estimates, the national estimate for uninsured people was 14% in 2014, representing a substantial decrease from nearly 17% in 2013.<sup>2</sup> Improved access to insurance, both nationally and in Virginia, is largely due to the implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act's (ACA) mandate for personal health insurance in 2014.<sup>2</sup> Nationally, Hispanics were the group with the highest percent uninsured in 2014 at 36%, a decrease from 44% in 2013. From 2013 to 2014, there was an almost 3% decrease in the number of Blacks that were uninsured and a nearly 2% decrease among Asians. The percentage of uninsured White, NH's in Virginia (9%) did not significantly change from 2013 to 2014.<sup>1</sup>

**Figure 6: Uninsured Population in Virginia by County, 2014<sup>1</sup>**



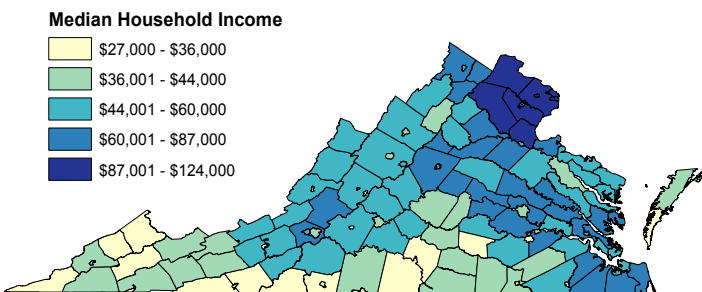
Virginia's uninsured population dropped from 14% in 2013 to 12% in 2014. Nationally, Virginia dropped from 20th in 2013 to 27th in 2014, as Virginia did not expand Medicaid with the ACA. Virginia had a lower percentage of uninsured individuals than North Carolina (15%), Tennessee (14%), but had a higher percentage than Maryland (9%).<sup>2</sup> The percentage of uninsured varies by region, with the highest percent in the Northwest region at almost 25% and the lowest in the Northern region at under 5% (Figure 6).<sup>1</sup>

Insurance status is influenced by several factors: income level, race and ethnicity, age, employment status and employer firm size.<sup>2</sup> People with income at or below 200% of the federal poverty level (2014: \$24,142 for an individual) are more than twice as likely to be uninsured as people at higher income levels. This is true for racial and ethnic minority groups, who are less likely to be insured than White Virginians. Young adults, unemployed individuals, part-time workers, homemakers and employees of very small firms are also at greater risk of being uninsured than other groups.<sup>2</sup>

## INCOME AND POVERTY

In 2014, the median household income in the US was \$53,482, a 3% increase from 2010.<sup>1</sup> Real median income increased for White and Asian households between 2010 and 2014, while Black and Hispanic households did not have drastic changes. There continue to be significant differences in the median household income for minority Black and Hispanic/Latino households compared to White and Asian households. In 2014, the median household income in the US for Whites was 1.6 times higher than that of Blacks and 1.3 times that of Hispanic households. Income also varied by age, with the lowest median income estimated to be in 15-24 year olds, followed by people 65 and older. Southern states had the lowest estimated median household income of all US census regions.<sup>1</sup>

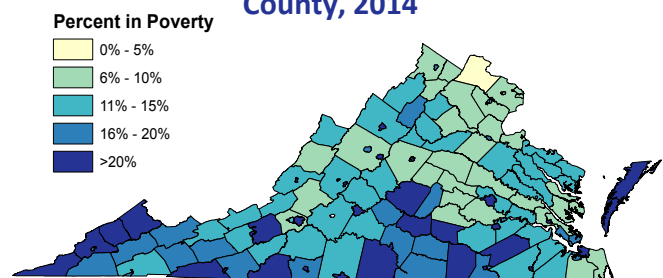
**Figure 7: Median Household Income in Virginia by County, 2014<sup>1</sup>**



In Virginia, the estimated median household income in 2014 was \$64,792, higher than the national median of \$53,482 during the same year. The counties with the highest income were in the Northern region and the lowest in the Southwest

and Central regions (Figure 7). Statewide, nearly 12% of Virginians were living in poverty in 2014, lower than the national 16% estimate. However, estimates show large differences between counties in the Southwest and Central regions of Virginia versus counties in the Northern region. Thirty-three counties had 20% or more of their residents living below the poverty level in 2014 (Figure 8).<sup>1</sup> Since poverty is highly correlated with lower educational status and lack of access to healthcare, it is one of the main factors that affects rates of HIV and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) in Virginia and nationwide.

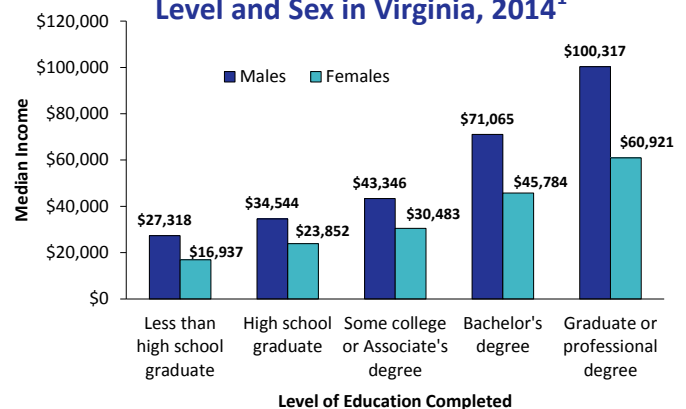
**Figure 8: People Living in Poverty in Virginia by County, 2014<sup>1</sup>**



## EDUCATIONAL STATUS

In 2014, 89% of Virginians ages 25 and older had at least a high school education, comparable with the national estimate of 87%. A higher percent of Virginia residents (37%) had a Bachelor's degree than the estimated 30% nationwide in 2014. The highest level of education completed is tied closely with a person's income. Data from the US Census shows a wide gap in median income between groups of different education levels and sex in Virginia, with the lowest among females with less than a 9th grade education, at almost \$17,000 and the highest among males with a graduate or professional degree at over \$100,000.<sup>1</sup>

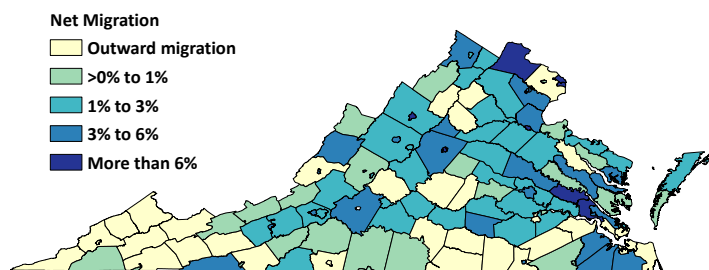
**Figure 9: Median Income by Highest Education Level and Sex in Virginia, 2014<sup>1</sup>**



## GEOGRAPHIC MOBILITY

From 2010 to 2015, 42% of Virginia's population increase was due to net migration. In some areas, net migration surpassed the natural population increase. The map below shows the percent of the population change attributed to net migration by locality in Virginia, from 2010 to 2015.<sup>5</sup>

**Figure 9: Population Net Migration, by County, 2010-2015<sup>6+</sup>**



In 2015, about half of the eight million Virginia residents were not born in Virginia. In other words, for every 10 Virginia residents there were five who were born in Virginia, four who were born in other states, and one who was foreign-born. Of those not US born, 42% were born in Asia and 36% in Latin America. Overall, people living in Virginia came from 150 countries around the globe. Countries contributing the most to Virginia's foreign-born population were El Salvador, Mexico, India, Korea and the Philippines. In 2015 alone, 7% of Virginians moved within the same county, about 5% moved to a different county within Virginia, and 3% moved into Virginia from out of state (0.8% came from a different country).<sup>7</sup>

Virginia's population is increasingly diverse as a result of migration. Population projections show that these trends are likely to continue in the future decade.

## HEALTH PLANNING GEOGRAPHY

Virginia Department of Health (VDH) uses several common geographic boundaries when analyzing HIV disease or STD data. For health planning purposes, Virginia's counties and independent cities are organized in 35 health districts, which are then distributed into five health regions. The health

districts may be comprised of just one county or city, or several localities, depending on the size of the population.

Virginia also uses census tracts as health planning units. Census tracts are small geographical subdivisions of counties and cities, which have between 2,500 to 8,000 inhabitants (an average of 4,000). Census tract boundaries get redesigned once every ten years, with each decennial US Census, in order to keep up with changes in local populations. Census tracts do not cross county boundaries as zip codes do. For that reason, and also for their relative permanence, they are preferred for geographical analyses to zip codes, which are subject to constant changes.

The US Census Bureau defines core-based statistical areas (CBSAs) as one or more adjacent counties or county equivalents that have at least one urban cluster of at least 10,000 population, plus adjacent territory that has a high degree of social and economic integration with the core as measured by commuting ties. The Census Bureau has defined two types of CBSAs: (1) a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), which has an urban core population of 50,000 or more, or (2) a Micropolitan Statistical Area ( $\mu$ SA), which has an urban core population of 10,000 or more but less than 50,000. There are 11 MSAs and four  $\mu$ SAs defined in Virginia.

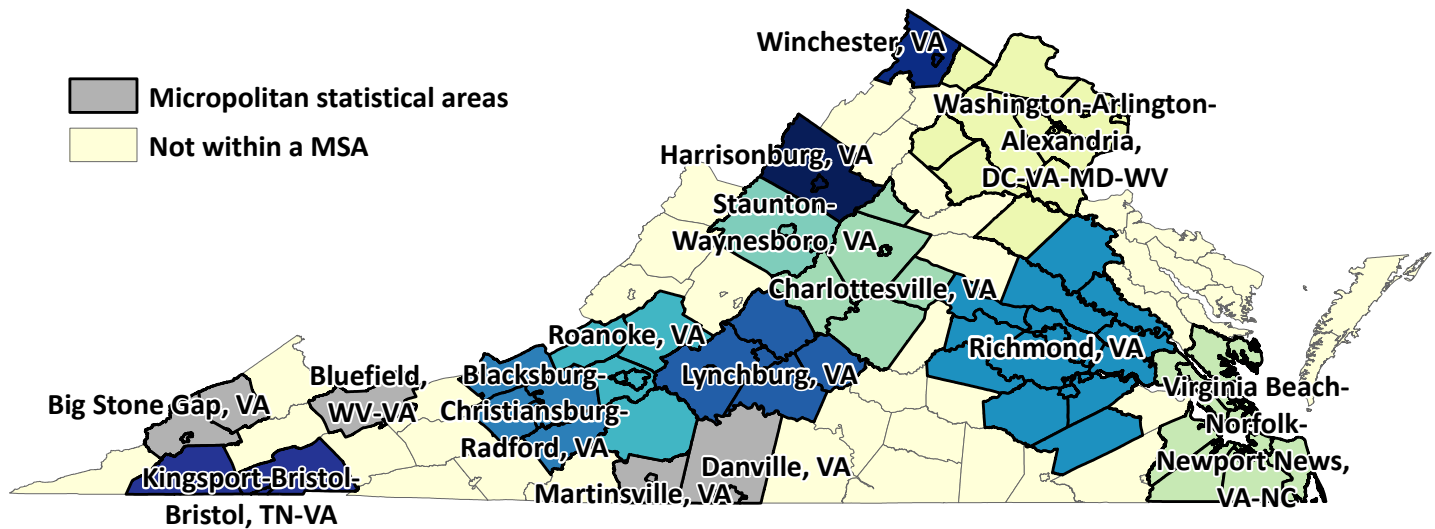
Finally, VDH uses well-defined geographical areas through which the Ryan White program provides funds throughout the country. Eligible metropolitan areas (EMAs) are those with a cumulative total of more than 2,000 reported AIDS cases over the most recent five-year period, and transitional grant areas (TGAs) are those with 1,000-1,999 reported AIDS cases over the most recent five-year period. For more details regarding the Ryan White funding schema please refer to the Ryan White HIV/AIDS program section of the HIV Epidemiology Profile.

# VIRGINIA HEALTH REGIONS, HEALTH DISTRICTS AND LOCALITIES AND INDEPENDENT CITIES

Central		Eastern		Southwest		Northern		
Health District	Locality	Health District	Locality	Health District	Locality	Health District	Locality	
Chesterfield	Chesterfield	Chesapeake	Chesapeake	Alleghany	Alleghany	Alexandria	Alexandria	
	Colonial Heights	Eastern Shore	Accomack		Botetourt	Arlington	Arlington Co.	
	Powhatan		Northampton		Craig	Fairfax	Fairfax Co.	
Crater	Dinwiddie	Hampton	Hampton		Roanoke Co.			Fairfax City
	Greensville	Norfolk	Norfolk		Covington			Falls Church
	Prince George	Peninsula	James City	Salem	Loudoun	Loudoun		
	Surry		York	Central Virginia	Amherst	Prince William	Prince William	
	Sussex		Newport News		Appomattox		Manassas	
	Emporia		Poquoson		Bedford		Manassas Park	
	Hopewell		Williamsburg	Campbell	Northwest			
	Petersburg	Portsmouth	Portsmouth	Lynchburg	Health District	Locality		
Chickahominy	Charles City	Three Rivers	Essex	Cumberland Plateau	Buchanan	Central Shenandoah	Augusta	
	Goochland		Gloucester		Dickenson		Bath	
	Hanover		King & Queen		Russell		Highland	
	New Kent		King William		Tazewell		Rockbridge	
Henrico	Henrico		Lancaster	Lenowisco	Lee		Rockingham	
Piedmont	Amelia		Mathews		Scott		Buena Vista	
	Buckingham		Middlesex		Wise		Harrisonburg	
	Charlotte		Northumberland		Norton		Lexington	
	Cumberland		Richmond Co.	Mount Rogers	Bland		Staunton	
	Lunenburg		Westmoreland		Carroll		Waynesboro	
	Nottoway	Virginia Beach	Grayson		Lord Fairfax	Clarke		
	Prince Edward	Western Tidewater	Isle of Wight			Smyth	Frederick	
Richmond	Southampton		Washington			Page		
	Franklin City		Wythe			Shenandoah		
	Southside		Brunswick			Suffolk	Bristol	Warren
Halifax			Galax			Winchester		
Mecklenburg				New River	Floyd	Rappahannock	Caroline	
		Giles	King George					
		Montgomery	Spotsylvania					
		Pulaski	Stafford					
		Radford	Fredericksburg					
<div>Virginia Health Districts and Regions</div> <div>Health Region</div> <div>Eastern</div> <div>Northwest</div> <div>Central</div> <div>Northern</div> <div>Southwest</div> <div>Health District</div>				Pittsylvania /Danville	Pittsylvania	Rappahannock/ Rapidan	Culpeper	
					Danville		Fauquier	
				Roanoke	Roanoke City		Madison	
					Franklin Co.		Orange	
				West Piedmont	Henry	Thomas Jefferson	Rappahannock	
					Patrick		Albemarle	
					Martinsville		Fluvanna	
							Greene	
							Louisa	
							Nelson	
							Charlottesville	



## VIRGINIA METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS AS DEFINED BY THE US CENSUS BUREAU<sup>8</sup>



Norfolk Transitional Grant Area (TGA)



VA Portion of the DC Eligible Metropolitan Area



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† Population estimates are from April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2015